AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the method comprising:

creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the second document type definition file is a text file that includes one or more declarations conforming to eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax, wherein the one or more declarations define the binding element;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; ~~and~~

binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element;

retrieving the SVG document, wherein the graphical representation of the object associated with the SVG statements is a first graphical representation of the object;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

retrieving the information pertaining to the object from the resource based on the pointer;

modifying the SVG statements to generate modified SVG statements, wherein the modified SVG statements include the information pertaining to the object but do not include the instance of the binding element; and

presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the modified SVG statements.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and
binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
presenting [[a]] the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;
~~extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;~~
determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and
if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using the information in the resource based on the pointer.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the method further comprises defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

said determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation comprises determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the method further comprises providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

said determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation comprises determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 7, said using the information in the resource comprising displaying the information to the user.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 7, said using the information in the resource comprising launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[14]] 1, wherein:

the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[14]] 1, said modifying the SVG statements comprising:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 18, said modifying the SVG statements further comprising removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

23-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of extracting the pointer comprises extracting a value from the attribute of the instance of the binding element for referencing [[a]] the resource through [[a]] the pointer.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[14]] 1, wherein the step of extracting the pointer comprises extracting a value from the attribute of the instance of the binding element for referencing [[a]] the resource through [[a]] the pointer.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, which sequences of instructions, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the second document type definition file is a text file that includes one or more declarations conforming to eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax, wherein the one or more declarations define the binding element;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; ~~and~~

binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element;

retrieving the SVG document, wherein the graphical representation of the object associated with the SVG statements is a first graphical representation of the object;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

retrieving the information pertaining to the object from the resource based on the pointer;

modifying the SVG statements to generate modified SVG statements, wherein the modified SVG statements include the information pertaining to the object but do not include the instance of the binding element; and

presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the modified SVG statements.

35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

36. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and

binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

37. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

~~extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;~~

determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using the information in the resource based on the pointer.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform displaying the information to the user.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 37, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim [[43]] 34, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 44, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

46. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim [[43]] 34, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 46, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

51. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the apparatus comprising:

one or more processors; and

one or more stored sequences of instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

wherein the second document type definition file is a text file that includes one or more declarations conforming to eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax, wherein the one or more declarations define the binding element;

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; ~~and~~

binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element;

retrieving the SVG document, wherein the graphical representation of the object associated with the SVG statements is a first graphical representation of the object;

extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

retrieving the information pertaining to the object from the resource based on the pointer;

modifying the SVG statements to generate modified SVG statements, wherein the modified SVG statements include the information pertaining to the object but do not include the instance of the binding element; and

presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the modified SVG statements.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and
binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

54. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 51, wherein the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;
~~extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;~~
determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and
if the user has selected the graphical representation, then using the information in the resource based on the pointer.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:
the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to

perform defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:

the one or more sequences of instructions further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

57. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform displaying the information to the user.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform using the information in the resource comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the

one or more processors to perform launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 54, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~60~~ 51, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

62. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 61, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

63. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~60~~ 51, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:
inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

64. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further

comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

65. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

66. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

67. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 63, wherein the instructions causing the one or more processors to perform modifying the SVG statements further comprise instructions which, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.

68. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing information about an object through a graphical interface, the apparatus comprising:

means for creating and storing scalable vector graphics (SVG) statements in a SVG document that references a SVG document type definition file, the SVG statements associated with a graphical representation of the object;

means for inserting into the SVG document a reference to a second document type definition file, said second document type definition file defining a binding element with an attribute for referencing a resource through a pointer, wherein the resource includes information pertaining to the object;

<u>wherein the second document type definition file is a text file that includes one or more declarations conforming to eXtensible Markup Language (XML) syntax, wherein the one or more declarations define the binding element;</u>

wherein the resource is a database and the pointer includes a query for a data item in the database; ~~and~~

means for binding to the SVG statements the pointer to the resource from an instance of the binding element;

means for retrieving the SVG document, wherein the graphical representation of the object associated with the SVG statements is a first graphical representation of the object;

means for extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;

means for retrieving the information pertaining to the object from the resource based on the pointer;

means for modifying the SVG statements to generate modified SVG statements, wherein the modified SVG statements include the information pertaining to the object but do not include the instance of the binding element; and

means for presenting a second graphical representation of the object based on the modified SVG statements.

69. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 68, wherein:

the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;

the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and

the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

70. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 68, further comprising:

means for creating and storing additional SVG statements in the SVG document, the additional statements associated with an other graphical representation of an other object; and

means for binding the additional SVG statements to an other pointer to the resource, wherein the resource includes additional information pertaining to the other object.

71. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 68, further comprising:

means for presenting the graphical representation of the object based on the SVG statements in the SVG document;

~~means for extracting the pointer to the resource from the instance of the binding element in the SVG document;~~

means for determining whether a user has selected the graphical representation of the object; and

means for using the information in the resource based on the pointer when the user has selected the graphical representation.

72. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:

the apparatus further comprises means for defining a style sheet which maps an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the means for determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise means for determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

73. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:

the apparatus further comprises means for providing statements in at least one of a scripting language and a programming language, the statements mapping an area on a display associated with the graphical representation to a link including the pointer to the resource; and

the means for determining whether the user has selected the graphical representation comprise means for determining whether a pointing device has placed a cursor over the area.

74. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein the means for using the information in the resource comprise means for displaying the information to the user.

75. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein means for using the information in the resource comprise means for launching a separate application to operate on the resource based on the pointer.

76. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 71, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

77. (Canceled)

78. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~77~~ 68, wherein:
the information retrieved from the resource includes current status of the object; and
the second graphical representation indicates the current status of the object.

79. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 78, wherein:
the object is one of a network device and a link between network devices;
the resource is a database of at least one of network devices and network connections associated with a managed network; and
the pointer indicates a database element associated with the object.

80. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~77~~ 68, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise:
means for inserting an anchor for a hyperlink to another resource; and
means for inserting the second graphical representation of the object into the anchor.

81. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for including in the hyperlink at least a portion of the information retrieved from the resource based on the pointer.

82. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the second graphical representation is the same as the first graphical representation.

83. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for removing the instance of the binding element from the SVG statements.

84. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 80, wherein the means for modifying the SVG statements further comprise means for removing the SVG statements that form the first graphical representation of the object.